

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to their representative, Brion St. Amour, during the telephone interview of January 12, 2005.

As discussed with the Examiner, Species I includes Figs. 4-5, Species II includes Figs. 8-9, and Species III includes Figs. 11A-11C. In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants hereby elect Species I shown in Figs. 4-5. Claims readable on the elected species include claims 1-16, 24-27, and 30. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 12-16, 24, 27, 30, and 36-41 are generic (readable on more than one of the species identified by the Examiner). For purposes of clarity, Applicants respectfully note that this election of species is submitted in order to expedite prosecution of the application and should not be construed as agreement to the Examiner's identification of species.

In response to the species election requirement, claims 17-23, 28, 29, and 31-35 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the same be granted. Applicants request that, if necessary, this Response be considered a request for an extension of time for a time appropriate for the Response to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees for filing this Response be charged to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, Deposit Account Number 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

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